

Serial No. 10/588,805

Art Unit: 3612  
Examiner: Jason S. Morrow**REMARKS**

In response to the Patent Office Action of March 15, 2010, the Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, several claims have been canceled from the application and claim 21 remains as the only independent claim.

On page 2 of the Patent Office Letter, the Examiner has rejected claims 21-25 and 27 referring in particular to claim 21 at lines 12 and 13. This rejection should now be overcome by the amendments made in claims 21 to indicate that the sloping face surfaces include a first surface and a second surface. The claim has also been amended to clearly indicate that the foot of the user rests on the first surface in the closed position of the housing and the calf of the user rests on the first surface in the open position of the housing. This is consistent with the diagrams of Figs. 6 and 7 of the present application.

In the Patent Office Letter, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 20 have been rejected based primarily on the Gaus '327 reference. This rejection should now be overcome by virtue of the cancellation of claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 11. Some of the claims that were dependent to claim 1 have now instead been amended to now depend instead from claim 21.

On page 5 of the Patent Office Action, the Examiner has indicated allowable subject matter in claims 21-25 and 27. Accordingly, it is believed that by these amendments, all claims in this application should now be in condition for allowance. The only remaining independent claim is claim 21. Claims 22-25 and 27 remain in the application. One further dependent claim has been added, namely, claim 28. Also, claims 2, 4, 8 and 20 have been amended to now directly or indirectly depend from claim 21.

In view of the cancellation of claim 1, no further comments are made herein regarding the rejection that was based primarily upon the Gaus et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,527,327. No further comments are believed necessary regarding the rejections on pages 2-4 of the Patent Office Letter in view of the cancellation of claim 1.

Serial No. 10/588,805

Art Unit: 3612  
Examiner: Jason S. Morrow**CONCLUSION**

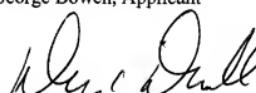
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims pending in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the present application is found by the Examiner not to be in condition for allowance, then the Applicants hereby request a telephone or personal interview to facilitate the resolution of any remaining matters. Applicants' attorney may be contacted by telephone at the number indicated below to schedule such an interview.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof to our Deposit Account No. 19-0120.

Respectfully submitted,  
George Bowen, Applicant

Dated: 5-19-10

By:   
David M. Driscoll

David M. Driscoll, Reg. No. 25,075  
Applicant's Attorney  
SALTER & MICHAELSON  
321 South Main Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Telephone: 401/421-3141  
Facsimile : 401/861-1953  
Customer No. 000987

F:\WilsonGunn\02867 Bowen\response to 03 15 10 OA.wpd